

## **APPENDIX D**

(VERSION OF CLAIMS AS AMENDED HEREIN WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE)

(Serial No. 09/864,723)

- 1. (Amended) A die cutting system for forming patterns from a sheet of material, comprising:
- a press including first and second members movable toward and away from one another, said first member including a die retaining element associated with a die receiving surface thereof, said second member including a sheet supporting surface oriented to oppose said die receiving surface; and
- at least one die securable to said first member by said die retaining element, said <u>at least one</u> die comprising a thin, unitary member including a substantially planar plate and at least one cutting edge protruding from a surface of said substantially planar plate.
- 2. (Amended) The die cutting system of claim 1, wherein said press includes a biasing element for moving at least one of said first and second [member]members toward the other of said first and second [member]members.
- 6. (Amended) The die cutting system of claim 5, wherein at least said substantially planar plate comprises a material that is attracted to a magnetic field.
- 7. (Amended) The die cutting system of claim 1, wherein said at least one die comprises steel.
- 8. (Amended) The die cutting system of claim 1, wherein said die retaining element mechanically secures said at least one die to said die receiving surface.
- 10. (Amended) The die cutting system of claim 1, wherein said at least one die further includes at least one ejection element between adjacent portions of said at least one cutting edge.